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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/592,907	06/13/2000	David William Balsdon	051481-5050	5487

9629 7590 10/21/2002

MORGAN LEWIS & BOCKIUS LLP
1111 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE NW
WASHINGTON, DC 20004

EXAMINER

FOX, JOHN C

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3753

DATE MAILED: 10/21/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/592907

Applicant(s)

Examiner

Fox

Group Art Unit

3753

—The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet beneath the correspondence address—

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, such period shall, by default, expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).

Status

☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 8/1/02

☒ This action is **FINAL**.

- ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, **prosecution as to the merits is closed** in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

☒ Claim(s) 7-16, 21-24 is/are pending in the application.

Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

☒ Claim(s) 7-16, 21-24 is/are rejected.

☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction or election requirement.

Application Papers

- ☐ See the attached Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948.
- ☐ The proposed drawing correction, filed on _____ is ☐ approved ☐ disapproved.
- ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are objected to by the Examiner.
- ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119 (a)-(d)

- ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).
 - ☐ All ☐ Some* ☐ None of the CERTIFIED copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ received in Application No. (Series Code/Serial Number) _____.
 - ☐ received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 1.7.2(a)).

*Certified copies not received: _____

Attachment(s)

- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s), PTO-1449, Paper No(s). _____
- ☐ Interview Summary, PTO-413
- ☐ Notice of Reference(s) Cited, PTO-892
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application, PTO-152
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948
- ☐ Other _____

Office Action Summary

Art Unit: 3753

This action is responsive to the communication filed August 7, 2002.

The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.

Claims 21-24 and 11-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Rosas et al in view of Kadner. Rosas et al teach the claimed valve, but arguably does not show a second portion of the valve head "occluding" the valve seat. Kadner shows a reciprocating valve with a second portion of reduced cross section occluding the valve seat and including an O-ring to seal, which is reliable and long lasting. It would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art to have used such a valve head and seal construction as taught by Kadner in the Rosas et al valve to improve the reliability and length of service of the valve thereof.

The body of the Office Action of May 7, 2002 inadvertently omitted claim 24 in the above rejection, which clearly meets the subject matter of claim 24. Claim 24 is listed on the cover sheet of the Office Action as pending and rejected. The error is regretted.

Claims 7-10 and 14-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Rosas et al in view of Kadner as applied above and further in view of Koch. Rosas et al, as modified, show the claimed valve except for the pin and pin calibration feature.

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Koch shows a solenoid valve with pin and pin calibration feature as claimed. It would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art to have used such a pin and pin calibration feature as taught by Koch in the valve of Rosas et al to similarly provide for adjustment of the spring biasing force on the valve.

Since no arguments in traverse of the above rejections have been made, the rejection is maintained.

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a).

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR RESPONSE TO THIS FINAL ACTION IS SET TO EXPIRE THREE MONTHS FROM THE DATE OF THIS ACTION. IN THE EVENT A FIRST RESPONSE IS FILED WITHIN TWO MONTHS OF THE MAILING DATE OF THIS FINAL ACTION AND THE ADVISORY ACTION IS NOT MAILED UNTIL AFTER THE END OF THE THREE-MONTH SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD, THEN THE SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD WILL EXPIRE ON THE DATE THE ADVISORY ACTION IS MAILED, AND ANY EXTENSION FEE PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a) WILL BE CALCULATED FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THE ADVISORY ACTION. IN NO EVENT WILL THE STATUTORY PERIOD FOR RESPONSE EXPIRE LATER THAN SIX MONTHS FROM THE DATE OF THIS FINAL ACTION.

Any inquiry concerning this communication should be directed to Examiner Fox at (703) 308-2595 or John.Fox@uspto.gov. Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0861. The fax number for Art Unit 3753 is (703) 308-7765. The Supervisory Primary Examiner for Art Unit 3753 is Michael Buiz who can be reached at (703) 308-2580 or at Michael.Buiz@uspto.gov.

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JOHN FOX
PRIMARY EXAMINER
ART UNIT 3753

jcf
October 20, 2002